

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A peptide consisting of any one of the following amino acid sequence ~~(A) to (D)~~ (A) to (C).

- (A) the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2;
- (B) an amino acid sequence wherein one or a few amino acids are deleted, substituted or added in the sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, wherein a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence has a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity;
- (C) an amino acid sequence having 60% or more homology with the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, wherein a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence has a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.

Claim 2 (original) A peptide generated from the following amino acid sequence (A) or (B) as a result of further cleavage or modification by a processing enzyme and having a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.

- (A) the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2;
- (B) an amino acid sequence wherein one or a few amino acids are deleted, substituted or added in the sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, wherein a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence has a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.

Claim 3 (currently amended) A DNA of any one of the following (A) to (G) (A) to (F).

(A) a DNA encoding a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2;

(B) a DNA encoding a peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence wherein one or a few amino acids are deleted, substituted, or added in the sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, and having a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity;

(C) a DNA encoding a peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence having 60% or more homology with the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, and having a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity;

(D) a DNA consisting of the nucleotide sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 1;

(E) a DNA encoding a peptide consisting of a nucleotide sequence wherein one or a few nucleotides are deleted, substituted or added in the sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 1, and having a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity;

(F) a DNA that hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 1 under a stringent condition, and encoding a peptide having a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.

Claim 4 (original) A DNA encoding a peptide generated from the following amino acid sequence (A) or (B) as a result of further cleavage or modification by a processing enzyme and having a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity:

(A) the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2.

(B) an amino acid sequence wherein one or a few amino acids are deleted, substituted or added in the sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, wherein a peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence has a cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.

Claim 5 (original) A fusion peptide wherein the peptide according to claim 1 or 2 is bound with a marker protein and/or peptide tag.

Claim 6 (original) A recombinant vector comprising the DNA according to claim 3, wherein the recombinant vector can express the peptide according to claim 1.

Claim 7 (original) A recombinant vector comprising the DNA according to claim 4, wherein the recombinant vector can express the peptide according to claim 2.

Claim 8 (original) A transformant wherein the recombinant vector according to claim 6 is introduced, which expresses the peptide according to claim 1.

Claim 9 (original) A transformant wherein the recombinant vector according to claim 7 is introduced, which expresses the peptide according to claim 2.

Claim 10 (original) An antibody that can recognize specifically the peptide according to claim 1 or 2.

Claim 11 (original) The antibody according to claim 10 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 12 (original) A method for screening a cardioinhibitory factor or 32 hypotensive factor, comprising the steps of administering the peptide according to claim 1 or 2 and a test substance to a non-human test animal, and measuring/estimating a level of cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity.

Claim 13 (original) A method for screening an inhibitor of cardioinhibitory activity or an inhibitor of hypotensive activity, comprising the steps of administering the peptide according to claim 1 or 2 and a test substance to a non-human test animal, and measuring/estimating a level of cardioinhibitory or hypotensive activity.

Claim 14 (original) A cardioinhibitory/hypotensive agent comprising the peptide according to claim 1 or 2 as an active ingredient.

Claim 15 (original) A method for preventing/treating diseases which necessitate cardioinhibitory/hypotensive activity, wherein the cardioinhibitory/hypotensive agent according to claim 14 is administered.